

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



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16711
October 20, 2006

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

Please accept my thanks for your participation in the recent Ports and Waterways Safety Assessment (PAWSA) workshop held for the Aleutian Islands. Your professionalism and expert contributions were instrumental to the success of the workshop. As an integral member of the local community, your agency's input, along with that of other key professional waterway users and stakeholders will ensure that the perspective and interests of the local maritime community are heard and incorporated into the decision processes for local risk mitigation improvements.

As discussed at the completion of the workshop, a final report was prepared based on the information collected during the workshop and can be found at www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/perp/ai_risk/ai_risk.htm. I have also enclosed a hard copy of the PAWSA Workshop Report, which is a compilation of the participant's input into waterway risk categories and their assessment of the appropriate mitigation measures for addressing risk within that waterway. This report also contains an in depth analysis and recommendations for next steps in implementing solutions that are both cost effective and meet the needs of the waterways users and local community.

I am interested in hosting a follow-on meeting to discuss the PAWSA workshop final report in detail. I anticipate a mid November to early December time frame, that can be attended either in person at the Sector conference room or via teleconference. This would allow us to address each of our concerns and provide input on the recommended actions, as well as develop a way ahead in this process.

Please contact LTJG Michael Moss of my staff at (907) 271-6956 or email him at Michael.A.Moss@uscg.mil with your suggestions on a date and time you are available and or any questions you may have in this regard. This will help in determining the best date and time in which to hold this meeting.

Based on your efforts, I feel confident that we have a solid baseline from which to work to manage waterway risk while maintaining our mutual high standards for safety, environmental protection, and efficiency of the waterway and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "M. R. Devries", written over a horizontal line.

M. R. DEVRIES
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port Western Alaska

Enclosure: PAWSA Workshop Report for the Aleutian Islands